

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A collator comprising:

first means for selectively separating physical output from a device, the first means including a first output tray and a second output tray; and

second means coupled to said first means for angling and/or rotating said first output tray while the second output tray remains stationary and based on said physical output, wherein said collator is a printer collator, and said physical output is printer output and wherein said second means includes means for selectively engaging or disengaging trays included in said first means to selectively move trays into desired positions.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The collator of Claim 1 wherein said second means includes a controller, said controller including third means for generating control signals to control said second means to facilitate automatic positioning of said first means to selectively separate said physical output.

4. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 3 wherein said second means includes a curved surface in communication with the first output tray, said curved surface and positions of said first output tray on said curved surface controllable via a motor, said motor responsive to said control signals.

5. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 4 wherein said second means includes adjustable output media guides for facilitating directing said physical output onto an appropriate output tray, and wherein said curved surface is fitted with a curved track having the first output tray positioned thereon.

6. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 4 wherein said second means includes an output media level sensor in communication with said controller, said third means generating a control signal to said motor effective to position a different output tray in an output path when said output media level sensor indicates that an output tray currently being filled is full.

7. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 6 wherein the first output tray is positioned approximately perpendicular to said curved track and is rotatable about an axis of said track.

8. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 7 wherein said curved track is shaped to enable the first output tray to be sufficiently rotated to expose one or more access doors, to expose other printer features, or to selectively disable said collator.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A collator comprising:
first means for accommodating output in different positions;
second means for sensing a property associated with said output and providing a signal in response thereto; and
third means coupled to said first means for facilitating automatic positioning of said first means in response to said signal to facilitate organization of said output, wherein said first means includes one or more output compartments defined by one or more output trays and wherein said third means includes means for collapsing trays associated with said first means in response to said signal to accommodate print media that is longer than the longest of said trays.

11-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 10 wherein said second means includes a controller in communication with software, said software allowing a user to specify a type of output.

14. (Original) The collator of Claim 13 wherein said third means includes a curved track having said one or more output trays mounted thereon, said curved track accommodating different tray positions.

15. (Original) The collator of Claim 14 wherein said third means includes a motor in communication with said curved track for selectively actuating one or more of said output trays to one or more of said different tray positions in response to said signal.

16. (Original) The collator of Claim 15 wherein said second means includes a paper level sensor mounted adjacent to said one or more output trays.

17. (Original) The collator of Claim 16 wherein said third means includes fourth means for re-directing said output to a different output tray in response to a signal output from said paper level sensor.

18. (Previously Presented) A collator comprising:
one or more output trays;
a track enabling varying positions of said one or more output trays;
means for selectively positioning said output trays about a longitudinal axis of said track to enable filling of each of said output trays; and
means for collapsing said one or more output trays to enable output media to pass over said output trays.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 18 further including means for sufficiently rotating said output trays about said longitudinal axis to expose access doors on an accompanying device.

21. (Original) The collator of claim 18, wherein one or more of said one or more output trays are fitted with adjustable media guides to accommodate varying widths of output media.

22. (Original) The collator of claim 21, wherein said adjustable media guides include a gear mechanism having one or more gears and/or toothed beams to facilitate positioning said media guides.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for organizing printer output comprising:

a curved track having a first end spaced from a second end;

compartments adapted to accommodate printer output media, wherein the compartments extend are directly attached to the track and are configured to be independently movable along the track;

a motor in communication with said compartments; and

a controller in communication with said motor, said controller generating control signals to said motor to independently control and selectively position said compartments about to different positions along the curved track to direct said printer output media into a desired one of said compartments.

24. (Currently Amended) An A printer capable of organizing printer output comprising:

a curved track having a first end spaced from a second end;

first means for generating an image on printer output media

compartments adapted to accommodate said printer output media, said compartments directly attached to the curved track to move along the curved track independent of one another;

a motor in communication with said compartments; and

a controller in communication with said motor, said controller generating control signals to said motor to independently control and selectively position said compartments about to different positions along said curved track to direct said printer output media into a desired one of said compartments.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A collator comprising:

a first media divider;

a second media divider;
a first actuator configured to non-linearly move the first divider while the second divider remains stationary; and

a second actuator configured to move the first divider between a first position in which the first divider is operably engaged by the first actuator and a second position in which the first divider is operably disengaged from the first actuator.

27. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 26, wherein the first actuator is configured to non-linearly move the second divider while the first divider remains stationary.

28. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 26, wherein the first divider and the second divider are coupled to a discontinuous curved track.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The collator of Claim 26 wherein the first divider and the second divider are configured to be collapsed to enable media to pass over the first divider and the second divider.

31. (Previously Presented) A printer comprising:
a surface; and
a collator including:
a first media divider;
a second media divider; and
an actuator configured to non-linearly move the first divider and the second divider between a first position in which the first divider and the second divider extend over the surface and a second position in which the first divider and the second divider expose the surface, wherein the first divider and the second divider extend parallel to the surface in the first position and wherein the first divider and the second divider extend perpendicular to the surface in the second position.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) The printer of Claim 31 including an access door providing the surface.

34. (Currently Amended) A collator comprising:

first means for selectively separating physical output from a device, the first means including a first output tray and a second output tray; and

second means coupled to said first means for angling and/or rotating said first output tray while the second output tray remains stationary and based on said physical output, wherein said second means includes a curved surface in communication with the first output tray, said curved surface and positions of said first output tray on said curved surface controllable via a motor, said motor responsive to said control signals, wherein said second means includes a controller, said controller including third means for generating control signals to control said second means to facilitate automatic positioning of said first means to selectively separate said physical output, wherein said second means includes an output media level sensor in communication with said controller, said third means generating a control signal to said motor effective to position a different output tray in an output path when said output media level sensor indicates that an output tray currently being filled is full, wherein the first output tray is positioned approximately perpendicular to said curved track and is rotatable about an axis of said track and wherein said curved track is shaped to enable the first output tray to be sufficiently rotated to expose one or more access doors, to expose other printer features, or to selectively disable said collator.

35. (New) The collator of Claim 34, wherein the first output tray and the second output tray are configured to move along the curved surface between a first position in which the first output tray and the second output tray extend in a first plane and a second position in which the first output tray and the second output tray extend in a second plane perpendicular to the first plane so as to expose one or more access doors, to expose other printer features or selectively disable the collator.